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FACT SHEET

Afghanistan Higher Education Project (HEP): Medical Education Component

OVERVIEW

The Medical Education Component of the Afghanistan Higher Education Project (HEP), which began in 2009, aims to improve pre-service medical training offered in Afghan public universities to better meet health workforce needs. The project works primarily with Kabul Medical University, and also works with other provincial medical schools, to establish a well-trained cadre of doctors who are able to offer high quality services in accordance with the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) and Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS). Additionally, this component of the HEP project will help strengthen the nursing workforce and establish a new Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program.

ACTIVITIES

USAID, in coordination with the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and other advising bodies, will:

- Capacity development will include improved teaching methods, clinical rotations, public health competencies, English language training, and computer-based hands-on practice. Content experts, both Afghan and international, will conduct short courses and seminars on topics of interest to teaching faculty.
- Strengthen the curriculum offered at medical schools for both undergraduate education as well as
 graduate education for doctors and nurses. Update the curriculum so that the content reflects
 current evidence-based best practices. Project staff will work with the taskforce and faculties to
 tailor the teaching content to the real-world application of knowledge vital to Afghanistan's public
 health and healthcare needs.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Improved coordination among stakeholders.
- Revised and updated curriculum, including the new MPH program.
- Improved English language skills among faculty.
- Enhanced teaching methods at Kabul Medical University.
- Strengthened system for clinical rotations.
- Revised and rationalized admissions requirements.

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